

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A method for providing an enhanced opening system for a sealed container comprising:

providing a package comprising a bag having lines of weakness and a pull-tab opener secured to the bag proximate to the lines of weakness, the pull-tab opener having a pull-tab opening integral therewith, wherein the pull-tab opening is designed to be hooked with hooking means; and

providing suitable markings to convey instructions to use the pull-tab opener to access package contents without utilizing ~~a larger muscle group as compared to the muscles needed to produce~~ a pinch force, wherein the package is adapted to be opened easily by a person who follows the instructions conveyed by the markings.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 further comprising providing words to convey the instructions.

13. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the pull-tab opener is a reusable pull-tab opener.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13 further comprising securing the reusable pull-tab opener to the bag with reusable securing means or a combination of reusable securing means and permanent securing means.

15. (Withdrawn) A method of providing a system of enhanced product removal from a sealed container comprising:

providing a sealed container having lines of weakness;

providing at least one product disposed within the sealed container; and

providing a pull-tab opener secured to the sealed container proximate to the lines of weakness wherein the pull-tab opener has a pull-tab opening configured to allow a user to hook the pull-tab opener through the pull-tab opening and apply sufficient force utilizing a larger muscle group, as compared to the muscles needed to produce a pinch force, to tear the sealed container at the lines of weakness creating an opening, further wherein the product is oriented proximate to the opening to facilitate easy removal of the product.

16. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 15 wherein the pull-tab opener is a reusable pull-tab opener secured to the bag with reusable securing means or a combination of reusable securing means and permanent securing means.

17. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 15 wherein the lines of weakness include two substantially parallel lines of perforations and a slit or third line of perforations located substantially perpendicular to and in between the two substantially parallel lines of perforations at one end, further wherein the reusable pull-tab opener covers the two substantially parallel lines of perforations, further wherein the package is comprised of six panels arranged in a rectangular configuration and the substantially parallel lines of perforations extend across a portion of two adjacent panels.

18. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 15 wherein the lines of weakness include two substantially parallel lines of perforations and a slit or third line of perforations located substantially perpendicular to and in between the two substantially parallel lines of perforations at one end, further wherein the reusable pull-tab opener covers the two substantially parallel lines of perforations, further wherein the package is comprised of six panels arranged in a rectangular configuration and the substantially parallel lines of perforations are contained on a single panel.

19. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 15 wherein at least a portion of the lines of weakness are perforations that form a V-shape having a perforation junction, further wherein the reusable pull-tab opener covers the perforation junction.

20. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 15, further providing markings to convey instructions to use the pull-tab to access the contents and thus utilize a larger muscle group as compared to the muscles needed to produce a pinch force.

21. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 20 further comprising providing words to convey the instructions.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the package contents comprise at least one product disposed within the sealed container.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22 wherein the at least one product is a disposable garment.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23 wherein the disposable garment is an absorbent article.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24 wherein the absorbent article is selected from the group consisting of a diaper, training pants, adult incontinence garment and feminine napkin.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the package contents comprises articles of different types and sizes

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the bag and pull-tab opener are made from a polymeric plastic film, paper or a paper composite and the pull-tab opening is a finger-sized opening.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27 wherein the hooking means comprises one to three fingers or an object, the object having a maximum diameter not greater than about eight (8) cm.

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29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the lines of weakness are torn and an opening is created when the pull-tab opener is pulled.
30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29 wherein the package contents are oriented proximate to the opening to facilitate easy removal.
31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein at least a portion of the lines of weakness form a V-shape having a perforation junction or a U-shape, wherein the U-shape has two substantially parallel lines of perforations and a slit or third line of perforations located substantially perpendicular to and in between the two substantially parallel lines of perforations at one end.
32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31 wherein at least a portion of the lines of weakness form the V-shape and the reusable pull tab opener covers the perforation junction.
33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31 wherein at least a portion of the lines of weakness form the U-shape and the reusable pull-tab opener covers the two substantially parallel lines of perforations.
34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33 wherein the package is comprised of six panels arranged in a rectangular configuration and the substantially parallel lines of perforations extend across a portion of two adjacent panels.
35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33 wherein the package is comprised of six panels arranged in a rectangular configuration and the substantially parallel lines of perforations are contained on a single panel.
36. (Previously Presented) A method for providing an enhanced opening system for a sealed container comprising:

providing a package comprising a bag having lines of weakness and a pull-tab opener secured to the bag proximate to the lines of weakness, the pull-tab opener having a pull-tab opening integral therewith, wherein the pull-tab opening is designed to be hooked with hooking means.

37. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 36 further comprising:

providing suitable markings to convey instructions to use the pull-tab opener to access package contents without utilizing ~~a larger muscle group as compared to the muscles needed to produce~~ a pinch force, wherein the package is adapted to be opened easily by a person who follows the instructions conveyed by the markings.

38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37 further comprising providing words to convey the instructions.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36 wherein the pull-tab opener is a reusable pull-tab opener.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39 further comprising securing the reusable pull-tab opener to the bag with reusable securing means or a combination of reusable securing means and a permanent securing means.